



2. Improved Education

- Protected K-12 education funding, while still cutting more than \$1.5 billion in spending from state's budget.
- Changed state's education mission from K-12 to 0-12.
 - Called on Intermediate School Districts to refocus their work specifically on early education and adult education.
 - Implemented a new rule to require reading and literacy activities in day care centers.
 - Established Project Great Start – an umbrella program designed to coordinate all Early Education programs in state. Goal is to increase reading to children and underscore importance of reading for parents. Elements include a Surgeon General-driven effort to have physicians provide information to their patients, public service announcements, and distribution of 80,000 parent education READY kits to low-income parents and first time moms.
- Created the Children's Action Network within government so that all departments of government can focus on how they can contribute to improving education.
- Created Family Resource Centers in 19 High Priority Schools with 20 new centers to open this school year. These Centers pools resources of local human services agencies to families can more readily access services.
- Signed a law creating a special "rainy day fund" to help ensure adequate funding for Michigan's public schools.
- Created a Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth lead by the Lieutenant Governor John Cherry to find ways to double the percentage of Michigan citizens who earn college degrees and other credentials of value.
- **Created the Children's Action Network (CAN) and Family Resource Centers**

Goal: Partner to improve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) schools of need.

Our education system remains one of our most powerful economic tools. Never in history have businesses wanted precisely what parents want: highly skilled, value-oriented citizens who will be successful in life and in the new knowledge based economy. Governor Granholm believes that investing in education leads to economic growth. In the spring of 2003, the Governor targeted resources towards 216 High Priority Schools that did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) in 2002. Many of the schools on this list were located in urban centers such as Detroit, Grand Rapids, Flint, Saginaw, and Benton Harbor. The Governor's Office and the Department of Education worked with the business and foundation communities, as well as community organizations, to better coordinate services and resources to help these schools. As the Governor and Department of Education have noted, these schools face social service as well as educational challenges. The Granholm administration will hold these schools accountable to high standards and help them achieve those standards by using the new Principals Academy at the Department of Education to help schools meet their Adequate Yearly Progress goals. The State of Michigan is continuing to work with high priority schools across the state in addressing the many challenges they face and ensuring that children succeed in school, regardless of where they live.

In the spring of 2003, the Governor formed the Children's Action Network (CAN) within state government to break down silos and focus various department efforts on the needs of children in Michigan. Through the efforts of CAN, and the leadership of FIA, the state has established 19 Family Resource Centers in the state's "high priority" schools, many of them in urban centers such as Detroit, Pontiac, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Saginaw, Benton Harbor, and Flint. Recently, FIA announced the establishment of 20 more Family Resource Centers, set to open in fall 2004. These resource centers provide families with the services and support they need and the convenience they offer from their location in their child's school.